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LBJ Wager Is Denied By Salinger

Former White House press secretary Pierre Salinger denied yesterday that he has bet $4000 that President Johnson would not be a candidate for re-election in 1968.

The Washington Post, in its Monday editions, said Salinger has "told friends" that he has placed such a bet. These friends, who declined to be identified, yesterday stood by the account published by The Washington Post.

In a telegram from Los Angeles, Salinger, a $35,000-a-year executive for a subsidiary of Continental Airlines, said:

"The item flattered my financial ability, but not my political sagacity. I have not bet $4000 or four cents that President Johnson would not be a candidate for re-election Whoever reported that item has obviously been on a 'trip' and I don't mean on Continental Airlines."